



# DE CURAÇAOSCHE COURANT.

Deel XIII.

ZATURDAG den 5den MAART, 1825.

N. 9

Gedrukt en Zaturdag's morgens uitgegeven ten Drukkery Kantore voor Z. M. den Koning der Nederlanden, door De Weduwe W. M. L. K.

Den 15den Februry 1825.

NAAR AMSTERDAM

Zal tegens het einde der aanstaande Maand vertrekken

HET SNEL ZEILEND GEKOPERD

Fregat Schip

SARA MARIA,

Kapitein P. BOSTYN.

Voor Vracht of Passagie zynde by zonder wel ingerigt ter vervoering van Passagiers, vervoer men zich ten Kantore van

J. W. G. JUTTING.

February 25, 1825.

FOR NEW YORK

The fast sailing brig

GENERAL JACKSON,

R. SHIELDS, Master.

Will sail shortly. For Passage only having fine accommodations apply at the Store of

J. DE SOLA & SON.

The Public is hereby cautioned against trusting the crew of the above vessel as no debts of their contracting will be paid by Master or Consignees.

February 25, 1825.

FOR NEW YORK

The fast sailing brig

VENUS,

J. R. MASON, Master.

Will sail shortly. For Passage only, having fine accommodations apply at the Store of

J. DE SOLA & SON.

The Public is hereby cautioned against trusting the crew of the above vessel as no debts of their contracting will be paid by Master or Consignees.

Fiscaal's Kantoor, den 4den Maart 1825.

DE ondergeteekende als daartoe door den Weledelen Aachtbaren Raad behoorlyk gekwalificeerd, doet by deze alle Broodbakkers te kennen geven, en ordonneren, dat de Broden voor de volgende week te bakken het gewigt moeten houden 24 oncen voor een Reaal; kundende de Fransche Broden een once minder wegen.

Op pene als by publicatie dd. 16den Maart 1824 gestatueerd is.

Per order van den Raad Fiscaal, WM. HK. GORSIRA Tweede Klerk.

Den 24den February 1825

DE ondergeteekende in kwaliteit als gesurrogeerde Excecuter in den Boedel van GABRIEL JANSEN, zal op den 7den der aanstaande maand Maart, op Publike Opveiling doen verkoopen, het Effect, de Slaven, Meubelen en Huiscieraden, &c. tot den opgemaelden Boedel behoorende.

LATTE

Den 24den February 1825

DE ondergeteekenden in kwaliteit als Testamentsaire Excecuter en Gemagtigde van de Testamentsaire Excecuter in den Boedel van wylen den Heer JAMES SMITH als hiertoe behoorlyk gekwalificeerd zynde zullen op Maandag der 7den der aanstaande maand Maart op Publike Opveiling doen verkoopen eenige Juwelen, Goud, Zilvergoed en andere Kleinooden &c.

W. R. BRUGMAN. LATTE.

MENGELINGEN.

Het is eene bekende daadzak dat in vorige tyden de Jezuïten allerlei stinksche streken hebben aangewend om protestanten voor de Roomsche kerk onder de Protestanten te maken; zoo trachtte Bob vele leden der orde zich als yverige Protestantische schoolmeesters te doen door gaan of vermoede Jezuïten werden gouverneurs by Protestantische families, ten einde hunne aanvertrouwde kweekelingen de leersellingen der Katooyke kerk intobezemen en ze wera te maken van het Protestantismus; deze wolven in schapevanden werden echter van tyd tot tyd betrappt en de Protestanten werden op hunne noede voor dezelve. Thans gebruiken de leden der Jezuïten orde en andere Spaansche geestelyken dezelve listen ten einde de vrymetselaars te ontdekken; zoo zyn er verscheidene dezer

geestes yden in de loges in Frankryk toegedrongen en korresponderen met het Spaansche gouvernement, zy bevluytigen zich namelyk om te ontdekken welke geheime loges in Spanje in verband staan met die in Frankryk en welke Spanjaarden er leden van zyn. Veel kwaads hebben deze valschaards reeds verricht en menig aanzienlyk Spanjaard is reeds door hunne aantyging als vrymetselaar gevat en ter dood gebragt; doch daarentegen zyn de loges in Frankryk van het priester bedrog verwittigt geworden en men heeft maatregelen geoomen om deze vermoede booswichta uit de loges te wera.

Diepe onwetenschap der Guinasche Negers —

Toen omstreeks dertig jaren geleden de Fransche Republiek de vryheid der negers van San Domingo had afgekondigt riepen de voornaamste planters de hulp der Engelschen in; eene Engelsche expeditie landde ook werkeylk op dit eiland en nam vele plaatsen in bezit; de Fransche Republikeinen maakten by deze gelegenheid gebruik der onkunde van de negers welke pas van de Kust van Guinea waren aangevoerd om de Engelschen te beschadigen; wanneer zy een fort moesten ontruimen dan zettede zy eenige vaten bukkruid in eene kelder en plaatsten er een Guinasche neger met een brandend lont by dezelve en zuden tegen hem: "zoodra gy zien zult dat de Engelschen in het fort zyn, dan moet gy dit lont met dit zwarte goed in den brand steken en zoodra het begint te branden moet gy gauw weg loopen en tot ons komen, dan zullen wy U naar uw vaderland te rug brengen en U ter belooning vele mooye geschenken geven." De arme onnoozele neger was over dit voorstel verheugd; by bleef in de kruit kelder tot dat hy zag dat de Engelschen binnen het fort waren; nu nam hy het lont en bragt het by het kruit, niet wetende dat de ontvlaming van een geheele ton in een oogenblik plaats had, maar hy dacht dat het langzamer hand in den brand zou geraken even als een stapel hout in den brand geraakt en stak daar op zeer gerust het brandend lont in het kruit.

Toen de Engelschen te Port au Prince waren binnen getrokken vonden zy een neger in eene kelder met verscheidene vaten kruit; hy trachtte het in den brand te steken doch zyne lonten waren gelukkig uitgedoofd, anders ware de geheele stad met de Engelsche troepen vernield geworden.

Het schynt dat Engeland tot tydsip der onafhokelyk verklaring der Zuid Amerikaanse Republieken gekozen heeft het oogenblik waar op de Fransche troepen Spanje ontruimden, ten einde daardoor in dit ongelukkige land eene algemeene schrik en verslagenheid te veroorzaken, waardoor ongetwyfeld de onlusten en ontvreedenheid moeten aangroeyen; doch wanneer nu de tyding aldaar aankomt dat door het verlamde bestuur van Ferdinand het allerlaatste Zuid Amerikaanse gewest is verloren geraakt dan is er geen twyfel of zelfs de allerherigste koningsgezinden raken tegen Ferdinand verbitterd; ware de koning een man van middelmatige zielvermogens dan hadde hy Peru nog kunnen behouden, want er is geen twyfel aan of zyne doorluchtigen bondgenoot de keizer aller Russen heeft reeds talryke sommen naar Spanje overgemaakt, welke dienen moesten om de koningsgezinden tegen de Zuid Amerikaanse Republieken te ondersteunen, doch deze sommen werden in Spanje zelve verzwolgen, door de eerste ambtenaar de beste die ze in handen kreeg in dien afgrond van verwarringen zo onverantwoordelyk voor zich kon behouden.

In het begin van het herstel der koninglyke magt was het algemeene gevoelen dat Frankryk eenigen invloed op Spanje zou uitoefenen, doch thans blykt het dat de Fransche ambassadeur even veel invloed by den koning heeft als zyne kat; terwyl de eene minister voor en de andere na, zy mogen hevige koningsgezinden zyn of gematigd, afgezet, gebannen of ter dood wordt veroordeeld; zoo heeft de koning reeds verscheidene malen na zyne herstelling alle kapiteins generals der provincien, afgezet en gebannen, de raad van Castillien wordt maandelyks onthouden, in de gevangenis geplaatst en door andere vervangen; wanneer de koning des nachts eene sombere luim heeft staat hy op, gaat met zyne lyfwacht vergezeld, zyne ministers, de leden van den raad van Castillien, enz. arresteren en in de gevangnissen opsluiten. — Wanneer een razende krankzinnige aan het hoofd der regering werd gesteld dan konde hy het niet erger maken; het zoude een geluk voor Spanje zyn dat die koning kwam te ster-

ven; zyn broeder Don Carlos die hem moest opvolgen is wel is waar een dweeper, die zich zelve geeselt om vergiffenis der zonden te verkrygen; deze zou terstond de dweepschtigste geestelyken tot zyne ministers verkiezen; maar die hy eenmaal gekozen had zou hy ook behouden en dan kon er nog eenmaal iets goeds van Spanje komen. Kwam des konings tweede broeder Don Francisco aan de regering dan zou het nog beter gaan; deze zou wel is waat vrolyk en verkwistend leven doch overigens zeer gematigd regeren en een vriend zyn van eene gematigde konstitutie.

Wat ook de uitslag moge wera van het verlies van Peru en de onafhokelyk verklaring van Zuid Amerika, het is te hopen dat het moorden in Spanje eens een einde moge nemen. Sedert verscheidene maanden is er geen dag voorby gegaan waarop te Madrid geene liberalen zyn ter dood gebragt; toen er op zekeren dag niet meer dan twee gedood werden, werd dien dag als een buitengewoon verschynsel in de dagbladen aangemerkt.

Onder het heitiger dezer slagtoffers van het despotismus zyn er vele die onder beuzelachtige beschuldigingen ter dood gebragt: Sommigen zyn gehangen geworden om dat men by hen in huis een exemplaar der konstitutie of een afbeeldsel van Riego gevonden heeft; anderen om dat zy konstitutionelen in hunne huizen verborgen hadden, enz.

Toen in de tyden der eerste uitbreiding van het christendom of gedurende de kerk hervorming in de 16te eeuw, duizende slagtoffers der eerste christenen of der hervormden gevallen waren, noemden men, het bloed der martelaren de rood der kerk, wyl juist het heldhaftige voorbeeld der martelaren het aantal der leden van de gemeente deed aangroeyen; diezelfde uitwerking moet ook ongetwyfeld de marteldood voor de vryheid hebben; alle der woesta wredeheden en yaselyke slagtingen der liberalen moeten zeker die gene welke bedaard nadenken een afschuw tegen het despotismus inboezemen en hen de voordeelen van de regering der wetten doen kennen.

Een zeker schoolonderwyzer in een stadje in Duitschland genaamd J. J. Häuberlet, had, gedurende zyne 51 jarige ambtsbediening, zyne onderscheidene uitgeoefende straffen dus aangeeteekend. Met eenen stok in de hand omhoog laten staan, 1707 maal; den ezel laten dragen, 5001 maal; op een driehoekig hout laten knielen, 618 maal; op erwten laten knielen, 777 maal; hetzelfde met een bybel, catechismus en gezangboek, 22,763 maal; slagen om het hoofd, 1,115,800 maal; oorvegen, 7905 maal; muilperen, 10,235 maal; plakken 136,715 maal; klappen met het lijnaal, 20,989 maal; dito met de roede, 324,010 maal en stokslagen, 911,527 maal.

Men beschouwe deze men echter niet als een buitengewone kinderbeul wyl hy juist zyne straf-oefeningen opgeteekend heeft; de meeste zynere ambtsnooten deden hetzelfde zonder het publiek te maken. Deze talryke en wreede straf-oefeningen moeten toegeschreven worden aan de gebrekkige schoolnigtingen van vorige tyden, doch ook aan den ruwen en onbescheffden staat van het menschedom; de straffoefeningen waren algemeen wreed en gestreng; de bekende reiziger Hasfner meldt in zyne reizoo naar de Oost Indiën, dat hy als kajuitjongen diende by een zekeren kapitein Koelbier genaamd; en dat gedurende dezen dienst zyn rug van de schouders af tot de voeten toe eene enkele wonde was door de menigvuldige slagen met een end piktoew, die hy van dien kapitein ontving, en hoewel deze kapitein een buitengewoon gestreng en wreedaardig man was, zoo waren de meeste kapiteins der Oost Indische kompanis schepen het niet veel minder. Doch vooral waren de regterlyke straffoefeningen talryk en wreed; verbazend is het getal van misdiedigers die in het begin der vorige eeuw te Amsterdam jaarlyks gestraft werden en die geradbraukt, gehangen, enz. geworden zyn; terwyl de straffoefeningen in gemelde stad thans veel minder talryk en wreed zyn; de meerdere beschaving in uitgebreider kundigheden hebben deze atende straffen allengskens verzacht, doch daar de ministers van het Heilige Verbond zich thans toeleggen om alles witteroeyen en te vernietigen wat naar verlichting en verbetering zweemt; zoo zullen welhaast alle de oude straffen weder ingevoerd worden; het radbraken, heogen en worgen zal weer de orde van den dag worden, de schooljongens zullen geplakt worden dat hun de handen zwellen als padden en alle inrichtingen van dien goeden ouden tyd zullen weer in derzelve volen glans schitteren.



one o'clock a salute announced the departure of the king who traversed the great gallery of the Louvre, and reached the great gallery of Apollo, where, in the first saloon, he received the deputations of the Peers and of the Deputies.— The procession soon began to move, and the most lively acclamations greeted the entrance of his majesty. Cries of *Vive le Roi, Vive Monsieur le Dauphin, Vivent les Bourbons*, were heard repeatedly. The Peers, the Deputies, and the spectators remaining standing, the king seated himself on his throne, having on his right the Dauphin and the duke of Orleans, and on his left the duke of Bourbon. His majesty desired the Peers to be seated, and the chancellor gave the Deputies permission to take seats. It was the first time of the king appearing in public, clothed with the ensigns of royalty, that his voice was heard in the assembly, and his presence and his voice produced an unlooked for effect. As soon as he appeared, a general movement, more expressive than all acclamations, manifested itself through the whole assembly, and was soon afterwards followed by an *explosion of braves*, mingled with the cry, a thousand times repeated, of *Vive le Roi!* When his majesty began to speak, the most profound silence took place in an instant; and, in a sonorous and strong voice, he pronounced the following Speech:—

"Gentlemen,—The first want of my heart is to speak to you of my grief and of your own: we have lost a king wise and good, tenderly beloved by his family, venerated by his people, honored and respected by all foreign governments.

"The glory of his reign will never be effaced. Not only did he re-establish the throne of my ancestors, but he consolidated it by institutions, which, bringing together and uniting the past with the present, have restored to France repose and happiness.

"The touching affliction which the whole nation felt at the last moments of the king, my brother, was to me the sweetest of all consolations, and, I can say with truth, it was to this cause that I owe the power of fully enjoying the confidence with which my accession to the throne has been received.

"This confidence shall not be deceived.—Gentlemen, I know all the duties which royalty imposes to me; but, strong in my love for the people, I hope, with the aid of God, to have the courage and firmness necessary for their due fulfilment. (Bravas and acclamations of love here interrupted the king.)

"I announce to you with pleasure, that the disposition of foreign governments have experienced no change, and leave me no doubt respecting the maintenance of those friendly relations which subsist between them and myself. The spirit of conciliation and prudence which animates them, gives to the nations the strongest guarantee which they have ever had against the return of those troubles by which they were for so long a time desolated.

"I shall neglect nothing to maintain that happy agreement which is its fruit. With this object it was that I consented to prolong still further the stay in Spain of a part of the troops which my son had left there, after a campaign, which, both as a Frenchman and a father, I may call glorious. A recent convention has regulated the conditions of this temporary measure in such manner as to conciliate the interests of the two monarchies.

"The just security which our foreign relations give us, will favour the development of our internal prosperity. I will second this salutary movement, Gentlemen, by causing to be successively proposed to you the melioration required by the sacred interests of religion, and by the most important parts of our legislation.

"The king, my brother, found a great consolation in preparing the means of closing the last wounds of the revolution. The moment has arrived to execute the wise designs which he had conceived. The situation of our finances will permit the accomplishment of this great act of justice and of policy without augmenting the imposts, without injuring public credit, without retrenching any part of the funds destined to the different branches of the public service.

"These results, perhaps beyond expectation, Gentlemen, are due to the order established with your concurrence in the fortune of the state, and to the peace which we enjoy. I entertain a firm confidence that you will enter into my views, and that this restorative order will be completed by a perfect harmony of will between you and myself.

"I have resolved that the ceremony of my coronation shall terminate the first session of my reign. You will assist, Gentlemen, at that august solemnity. There, prostrated at the foot of the same altar where Clovis received the Sacred Unction, and in presence of Him who judges nations and kings, I will renew the oath to maintain and cause to be observed the laws of the state, and the institutions granted by the king, my brother; I will thank divine providence for having deigned to make use of me in order to repair the last misfortunes of my people; and I will beseech the Almighty to continue to protect that beautiful France, which I am proud of governing."

DECEMBER 27.

According to a letter received in town from one of the ministers of president Boyer, a large amount of specie has been collected in Hayti by the latter, who, instead of requiring any of the superabundant wealth of the capitalists of this country, had not less than five millions of dollars, independent of gold coin, locked up in the treasury. The plan adopted by the presi-

dent was to purchase nearly the whole of the specie arriving at Port au Prince, Cape Henry, and other ports, and to issue paper money instead of it. The question of the recognition of the independence of St. Domingo by France is treated with much indifference by the writer of this communication, who insinuates that such a measure must very shortly be adopted as a matter of course.

JANUARY 10.

After a long silence upon the question of recognising some of the new American states, the Courant at length acknowledges that the measure has been determined upon in the cabinet, and it proceeds to justify the procedure.— We are under the necessity of differing from the ministerial journal on this point. Without pretending to be deep juris-consults, we would hazard the opinion that the principles of international law do not warrant this interference on our part betwixt Spain and her colonies, under the circumstances in which they are at present placed. If we deem it unnecessary in the present prostrate state of Spain to attend to the usual punctilios, we are guilty of insolence and cruelty; but if there be a kindling spark in that once mighty empire, or if she be assisted by powerful friends, our conduct on the present occasion may prove to have been most impossible.

It is said, that our commerce calls for this measure, but we suspect that if our merchants were consulted upon the proposed change, they would prefer to have matters remain as they are. There is no occasion to induce new adventurers into this trade, there being already plenty; there is no want of the commodities of those countries in our markets; and as to the vent for British manufactures, there is a constant complaint of the excess of them in every port in South America. We see nothing that can be gained by any new commercial treaties with those countries, but a great deal that may be lost; for while, hitherto, British goods have been respected under every change of masters, in consequence of the perfect system of neutrality maintained by us, there is now a risk that they may be confiscated whenever the Royalists find a quantity of them in any town of which they may obtain possession.

It appears by our Correspondent's communication, that at the very moment our Cabinet was aiming this humiliating blow at the Spanish Monarchy, the government of that country was busied in preparing a modification of its commercial regulations, which promised to be highly advantageous to the manufacturing interests of Great Britain."

We have received the Madrid Gazette of the 28th ult., which contains the articles of a treaty concluded between the monarchs of France and Spain, for the further occupation of the Peninsula by the troops of the former sovereign. The principal stipulations of this treaty have been already made public. The exact number of the troops which are to remain is twenty two thousand. The garrisons they are to occupy are Cadiz, Barcelona, St. Sebastian, Pampeluna, Jaca, Seo d'Urgel, and Figuras. These garrisons are not to be evacuated till the parties interested shall consider it necessary, bearing in mind the 16th article of the convention of the 8th of February last.

FROM EL COLOMBIANO.

Caracas, Feb. 23.

Republic of Colombia.—Department of Venezuela

Head quarters, Maracay, Feb. 3, 1825 — 15.

To captain Dupotet, commanding a division of vessels of war of his most Christian majesty.

SIR.—Although I cannot myself imagine that the operations and manœuvres of the vessels under your command are of an hostile nature, yet the public considers them in this light, and I have received various remonstrances and communications on the subject from the towns and authorities on this coast, which do not permit me to behold them with indifference, but compel me to require from you a clear explanation of the views which detain you on our coast, and in front of Puerto Cabello, blockading the said port, as is sufficiently demonstrated by the time that has already been devoted to this object, and by your having chased several Colombian vessels; searching some of them, particularly the schooner "Rayo," examining her papers, and crew, and putting an officer on board for a considerable time. Suffer me to observe to you with the frankness of a soldier, that this proceeding is at variance with the open character of your nation, and above all with that of a government, which powerful as yours is, ought to conduct itself more ingenuously towards us. If it be your object to make war on us, you should previously declare this intention; assured that Colombians, will outrage no one by empty boasts, although they have hitherto given reason to believe, that if they are unable to resist other powers that may assail them, they possess at least sufficient fortitude and perseverance to sustain their rights and honour by every means in their power.

Should your government have any cause for complaint against individuals of Colombia, you may be assured that the Republic will award them the punishment they merit, for any infractions committed on the rights of nations, and that I shall take a lively interest in its infliction, both on account of my anxiety for the reputation of my government, the credit of the nation, and above all, for the utmost circumspection towards friendly powers.

I hope you will favor me with a reply to this communication, as being absolutely necessary,

in order to calm the public mind, satisfy the government, and regulate my future proceedings.

I am with the greatest consideration, Sir,  
Your most attentive Servant,  
JOSE ANTONIO PAEZ.

To H. E. General Paez, director of the War in the Department of Venezuela, &c. &c.

GENERAL.—I have just received the letter which your excellency has done me the honor to address to me, respecting my cruise in front of Puerto Cabello. The commandant of marine Esteres, can satisfy your excellency with regard to my motives for adopting this resolution; and you will perceive that it is occasioned by a refusal on his part, to make restitution to the captain of the French ship Urania, for the merchandise taken from him, and to indemnify him for the injury he has sustained in consequence of this illegal capture.

If my presence in front of Puerto Cabello seems hostile to the inhabitants of that city and the adjoining country, your excellency may easily undeceive them, by observing the free passage to and from which I permit to your commerce, and vessels of war.

The French government seeks as little as that of Colombia to interrupt the good understanding which has always subsisted between the two nations; but there are certain rights which cannot be compromised. Two of your privateers have contrary to all maritime law, detained a French vessel; and I had a right to expect that my remonstrance on this subject would have obtained for me a more satisfactory reply, than an intimation, that the vessel had been condemned in conformity with your privateers laws. The government of Colombia may issue such orders as it deems expedient against its enemies; but I cannot imagine that she seeks to make neutral powers conform to them.

With respect to the schooner Rayo which I visited some days since, I beg your excellency will believe that I have in this particular, in no wise forgotten the consideration due to a friendly power. The manœuvres and flight of this vessel from one of the schooners of my division were sufficient to excite suspicion, more especially when on board of her were found cannon, thirty muskets, and twenty men. If my examination of this vessel has been strict, it has been so in behalf of commerce in general; in as much she might have been a pirate or privateer.

Your excellency must admit that I cannot be guided in my conduct by the colours which a vessel may assume. It was with American colours, that the privateer Centella, and the pirate La Poli Hampson detained the ship Urania; and it is with Colombian colours that the brig Romano commanded by Cotarro has taken French vessels.

Nevertheless Señor general, in order to satisfy your excellency that I am far from seeking to disturb the tranquillity of the department under your command, (a conduct at variance with the instructions I have received,) if your excellency will assure me that the government of Colombia will within a given time settle the affair of the ship Urania, and that its privateers shall receive orders to detain no more French vessels, I will instantly depart; otherwise I shall be under the necessity of awaiting instructions from the governor of Martinique, and the admiral commanding the West India station.

Be pleased to accept general, the assurances of the high consideration with which I have the honor to be,

Your excellency's most obedt. Serv.,  
DUPOTET.

On board the Jean d'Arc, Feb. 7, 1825.

Head-quarters, Calabozo, Feb. 12 1825 — 15.  
To Captain Dupotet, commander of a naval division on the West India Station

SIR.—I have just received the favor of your letter, which has been transmitted me hither, where I am detained by affairs connected with the arrangement of this department.

I am satisfied on my part, of the good intentions of the French government, as conveyed to me through you.

With respect to the assurances you require from me, that the government of the Republic shall decide within a given time on the subject of the ship Urania, and shall give orders to its privateers not to detain French vessels, you must be aware that no public functionary can pledge himself to the line of conduct his government may think fit to adopt: but what I can affirm is, that your requisition seems to me reasonable, and is in unison with the principles which my government has already avowed, as well as with those of every Colombian jealous of the national honour, and especially with my own.

Under this impression I have already addressed my government in behalf of your claim; and I assure you that I will again do so, in consequence of your last communication; and should you wish to do the same, you will please to transmit your despatches through the commandant of Puerto Cabello or Ocumare, to the general in chief, Santiago Mariño, to whom I have this day imparted my intentions on this subject, as being the chief whom I have left provisionally in charge of the department until my return which will be soon.

I trust that this communication will enable you to arrange your ulterior operations.

I am with the greatest consideration,  
Your faithful Servant,  
JOSE ANTONIO PAEZ.

ST. THOMAS, FEBRUARY 19, 1825.

On Thursday afternoon at 5 o'clock the regular troops, barcher corps, brand corps, and free corps, assembled at their respective places of meeting, to each of which H. E. the governor repaired, accompanied by his suite, and then expressed his high gratification and thanks for the zeal and activity displayed by all on the late most calamitous occasion. Three guns fired in rapid succession from Fort Christian at half past 5 o'clock announced the discontinuance of Martial Law.

Since our last publication it has been ascertained that the number of lots destroyed by the fire amounts to 334.—most of which contained from 1, to 4, 5, 6 and more houses each.

FEBRUARY 23.

The inhabitants of this island have presented the following address to his excellency the governor:

To His Excellency Chamberlain P. v. Scholten, knight of the order of Dannebroeg and of the royal French order pour le merite militaire, Governor of the islands of St. Thomas and St. John's &c &c St. Thomas, 19th Feb. 1825.

Sir!—We think it one of our first duties after the lamentable catastrophe which has all last week occupied our thoughts and engrossed our time, to avail ourselves of the earliest moment of leisure for the expression of the grateful sense which we, and all this community with us, entertain of your excellency's unremitting exertions to arrest the progress of the fire, the activity and unwearied pains which you have so conspicuously manifested to avert the destruction of the lower part of the town, and when that proved inevitable, to preserve the houses and valuable property contained in the upper part, which thereby has been so successfully preserved, that the owners have been able to lend an assisting hand to their distressed fellow inhabitants.

Ever since that fatal day we know that your excellency's time has been unremittingly employed in lessening the dreadful effects of the conflagration, in alleviating the distress of the sufferers, and in devising the means of averting similar disasters by judicious regulations for the future,—we are confident that our grateful acknowledgement of your labours and the interest you take in the welfare of this island, is felt and shared by the whole community, and although much remains still to be done, we look with confidence into a brighter futurity while we are under the command and paternal protection of your excellency, in whose benevolent and enlightened mind our interest and welfare occupy the first place. A corresponding willingness, and cheerful execution of your excellency's well meant intentions on the part of all who have opportunities of carrying them into effect, is what we are happy to say we can anticipate from the spirit pervading the good inhabitants of our island; your noble example will not fail to inspire every one of them with vigour and perseverance in aiding and forwarding your views, and thereby evincing their acknowledgment of the obligations under which the eminent services of your excellency on this trying occasion have laid us all.

To which his Excellency was pleased to reply: Government house, St. Thomas, } 20th February, 1825 }

GENTLEMEN!—I thank you for the address you have been pleased to present to me on occasion of the late unfortunate conflagration.—Under this lamentable event it affords me no small gratification, that this respectable community feels convinced that upon my part all has been done to arrest the ravages of the fire, give security to the place, and relief to the unfortunate sufferers; as far as my endeavours have met with success, I can but attribute it to the cordial co-operation and aid of the good inhabitants of this island. This public spirit at all times supporting the measures of government, will, I feel convinced, in a shorter period than might be expected, again raise the part of the town which has suffered, from its ashes; and as long as it happily exists, cannot fail of rendering this island prosperous.

I am, Gentlemen,  
Your most obedt. Servt.  
P. v. SCHOLTEN.

TRANSLATION

OF A LETTER FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, DATED 14TH FEB. 1825.

Messrs. Cbr. Gruner, W. P. Furniss, Thos. Murray, D. Pretto, and V. Farrooth who by their laudable exertions to alleviate the distress of the unfortunate sufferers by the conflagration have collected by subscription from the well-minded and opulent inhabitants of this town, a sum of \$7000, have transmitted this sum to me to day with a request to see this contribution appropriated in the most expedient manner, and to appoint to that effect a committee, by which the object in view could be best accomplished.

In consequence, and for the purpose of carrying this noble object into execution, I hereby nominate you, gentlemen, who are in possession of the requisite local knowledge, to be members of that committee.

President and Member,—the Stadshauptmand of St. Thomas capt. Stakemann,

- Capt. WALLÖE, } Members.
- Mr. MORRISON, }
- Mr. LINDO, }
- Mr. ROUGE, }
- Dr. GREGG, }
- Mr. ANDRZE, }

I confer upon you, gentlemen, in the name

of the well thinking and well-minded burghers of St. Thomas, the noble office of alleviating the distressed situation of the unfortunate, and it is my duty now to explain to you what ought to be the basis of your praise-worthy labour and exertions:

1. The objects of relief and assistance are all the Danish inhabitants, white and free coloured, who by the fire have lost landed property.

2. Next after these your attention should be directed to those white and coloured inhabitants, natives of this island, who have sustained losses by the fire.

3. All distressed foreigners in want of relief, which ought to be administered to them in articles of clothing principally, and also in money, in case they are determined to quit the island, to which purpose you will assist them in every manner.

The object which the committee should have invariably in view in their operations, with the exception of what is stated in the 3d article, is that the relief or assistance, which you afford to the sufferers in the name of this town, is not given in money. You will see shelter provided for those who are without it, the necessary clothing for those who are destitute of it, food for those who have no means to buy it, or no opportunity of earning it, medical assistance and attendance to the sick, but above all other considerations let it be your first and foremost duty to procure useful occupation to those who are capable of working, in good health, and whose situation is such that they can work, and become useful to themselves and of service to others.

You will distribute tools and materials to those tradesmen who have none, to enable them to support themselves;—you will provide a place where clothing of all descriptions will be made up and sewed;—you will use your endeavours not to suffer those who can work, to go about idle, and to get occupation for all, suitable to their situations and abilities.

These, gentlemen, are the ground lines, which will serve you for your guidance in your proceedings, the importance of which nobody can take more warmly to heart than myself.

I transmit to you the enclosed letter addressed to me, and beg you will require from the gentlemen who have signed it the sum mentioned in it paid over to you. I shall, in respect to that object, with sincere pleasure contribute, whenever it is necessary, whatever can promote the public interest and welfare, which is the foremost and most important consideration in my mind.

Government of St. Thomas and St. John's, St. Thomas, 14th Feb. 1825.

P. v. SCHOLTEN.

(From the London Courier, Jan. 6.)

The great measure which has, at length, been adopted by his majesty's government, of making commercial treaties with certain of the South American States, while it answers the just expectations of the whole British empire, can excite no surprise in Foreign Cabinets.

Such has been the frank, consistent, and steady, course of ministers upon this momentous subject; a course which must at once protect the British government against the suspicion of having had any purpose to conceal from Spain or from the World. Our intentions have been explicitly declared from the first; and the execution of them was made contingent upon two events only,—the actual condition of the South American States, and the interests of his majesty's subjects.

With respect to the former, if we look at the present situation of Mexico and Colombia, it must be admitted that both these states afford convincing evidence of their stability. In Mexico, we have seen the enterprise of Iturbide crushed with as little difficulty, as if he had landed upon the coasts of France to effect the overthrow of the French government. An anomalous and heterogeneous constitution has been replaced by one, which in all its essential forms, resemble that of the United States. The government has been regularly installed, by the public voice, obtained in a due manner from the various provinces constituting the Mexican state. A president and vice president have been elected; the Cortes assembled; tranquillity restored and maintained; and all the functions of a duly organised government are carried on without interruption.

The case, with regard to Colombia, is still stronger. We find there a regular and settled form of government, which has subsisted for several years under the same head, and with the same institutions, modified only, from time to time, as practical improvements suggested themselves to their internal administration. It is true, that the war in Peru has not yet been attended by any decisive result; but its progress, hitherto, has been such as not only to remove any fear which might have been entertained with respect to its being carried into the Colombian territory itself, but, also, to furnish the strongest grounds for calculating upon final success.

Thus, with respect to Mexico and Colombia, the first condition which his majesty's government required, as a motive to recognition, is fully completed. These states have made that satisfactory progress towards a regular and settled form of government, which was a necessary preliminary to the concluding of any relations between them and us. The time has ar-

rived, when the recognition of their separate political existence, could no longer be delayed.

The time, too, has, certainly, arrived, when, to use the language of his majesty's speech at the opening of the last session of Parliament, "the interests of his own people," have imperiously called for this measure. The commercial transactions between this country and South America generally, but more particularly with Buenos Ayres, Mexico and Colombia, are extensive, and rapidly increasing. A vast amount of British capital is embarked in various channels of enterprise, as relates to those countries. The great mining companies that have been established for the working of mines in Colombia, in Mexico, and the La Plata provinces—the pearl fishery in the first of these states—and other undertakings, which it is unnecessary to recapitulate—constitute a mass of British interests too important, in every point of view, to remain without that protection which will, necessarily, grow out of the relations now about to be established.

It is obvious, therefore, that this great measure could no longer be delayed, consistently with the principles by which our government act, from the first, avowed its determination to be guided; and the adoption of it is to be regarded only as the necessary consequence of those principles.

An official communication of this decision has, we understand, been made to all our allies through our ambassadors and ministers at their respective courts.

With respect to the mode of carrying it into effect, little requires to be said. Mr. Ward will proceed immediately to Mexico, with full powers to himself, and to Mr. Morier, who is already there, to conclude a commercial treaty with that government. Colonel Campbell, in like manner, will return to Colombia, and, in conjunction with colonel Hamilton, who is still at Bogota, will proceed to negotiate with the Colombian government a similar treaty of commerce.

With respect to Buenos Ayres, we understand, that, at a period anterior to the recent cabinet deliberations upon the subject of Mexico and Colombia, measures had been adopted calculated to lead to similar results, and we should not be surprised to find our commercial relations with the La Plata provinces ratified before those can be which have been entered into with Colombia and Mexico.

It may be necessary, in conclusion, as we have heard some doubts expressed upon the subject, to recal to the recollection of our readers, what we stated as far back as the 20th of last August. We then observed, that the "only formality that would be gone through whenever we did recognise these states, would be the negotiation of a commercial treaty. For that purpose a minister must be appointed. In that sense will consist the act of recognition."

Paris, Jan. 3.—"On the 16th ult. sailed, from the port of Cadiz, the frigate La Fame, for the Havana, and the brig Maria Isabella, for Honduras. These vessels, it is said, are to rejoin the expedition which sailed from Coruna; and the ship of the line San Francisco de Asis, which went out with L'Aquila brig of war, Jan. 13, 1824, to proceed to Lima, and to protect the royalist army in those seas."

We have also received the Etoile of Monday, under date of St. Petersburg, Dec. 13, we find a proposition from the empress Mother to the emperor, recommending that the monastery of Smolny shall be thrown open as a temporary asylum for the sufferers from the late inundation who were educated in the public establishments. The document is signed "Marie," and beneath is stated, in the hand writing of the emperor, is the following approval:—

"The project of your imperial majesty is worthy of your compassionate heart, and usefully accords with the measures taken by the government to relieve the victims of the inundation."

Madrid, Dec. 23.—"The king, accompanied by the queen, the infants and infantas, and prince Maximilian of Saxony, honored the royal academy of San Ferdinand with a long visit. His majesty condescended to address the most flattering compliments to the painters and their pupils."

"The official Gazette continues to give lists of numerous promotions which the king has just made in his army in Peru."

Steam Packet to India.—This is the boldest attempt to apply steam to a sea voyage; yet it appears to be calculated with every chance of success. The vessel is five hundred tons burthen, to be fitted for passengers only, and is now building at Deptford. She is to be completed with machinery of the best description by Maudslay, and will be commanded by a lieutenant of the royal navy, who is well acquainted with the sea she will have to traverse. Between decks there are ten cabins; the two stern cabins are ten feet nine inches by seven feet six; the eight other cabins are each seven feet three wide, but differ in length from seven feet nine to eight feet ten. The vessel will be equally adapted for sailing and steaming. She will touch at the Cape to take in a fresh supply of coals and other necessaries, will proceed next to Madras, and finally to Calcutta; and upon a moderate calculation it is estimated that she will make the whole voyage from London to Calcutta in less than two months.